



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Richard P. RUSIN and James D. HANSEN

Serial No. 09/383,560  
Filed: August 26, 1999

Group Art Unit: 3732

Examiner: To Be Assigned

For: CERAMIC DENTAL MILL BLANKS

#5/A(P)  
6-21-00  
6-21-00  
S.B.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicants respectfully request that this preliminary amendment be entered into the patent application referenced above prior to the same being taken up for consideration.

Please add the following new claims to the application:

- 49  
--50. The mill blank of claim 1 wherein the ceramic is nanocrystalline.
- 50  
--51. The prosthesis of claim 41 wherein the ceramic is nanocrystalline.--
- 51  
--52. The prosthesis of claim 41 further comprising composite material on the prosthesis.--

A1 53  
B17  
Rule 12d

A fee of \$54.00 is believed to be required in conjunction with the newly added claims. Please charge this amount as well as any deficiency in fees or overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

May 3, 2000  
Date

Signed:

Steven E. Skolnick, Reg. No. 33,789